

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WELFARE

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A Review of Some New Federal Programs Affecting the Mentally Ill and Retarded

Study No. 23, National Association
of State Mental Health Program Directors, Sept. 10, 1965

PART I - SUMMARY

- o Total major mental health -- retardation programs 16
- o Dollars involved for MH-MR . . . \$3,505,443,175.
- o Key MH-MR programs --
 - (1) Staffing of community Mental Health centers (PL 89-105)
 - (2) "Medicare": Hospital and Physician coverage of Mentally Ill Aged (PL 89-97)
 - (3) Welfare assistance to Mentally Ill Aged (PL 89-97)
 - (4) Appalachian Regional Development Act of 1965 (PL 89-4)
 - (5) Economic Development Act of 1965 (PL 89-136)
 - (6) "Poverty": Economic Opportunity Act of 1964 (PL 88-452)
 - (7) Health Professions Educational Assistance Amendments of 1965 (H.R. 3141)
 - (8) Vocational Rehabilitation Amendments of 1965 (H.R. 8310)
 - (9) Drug Abuse Control Amendments of 1965 (PL 89-74)
 - (10) Older Americans Act of 1965 (PL 89-73)
 - (11) Manpower Act of 1965 (PL 89-15)
 - (12) Housing Act of 1965 (PL 89-117)
 - (13) Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (PL 89-10)
 - (14) Health, Education & Welfare Dept. Appropriations for Fiscal Year 1966 (PL 89-156)
 - (15) Commission on Mental Health Services for Children (PL 89-97)
 - (16) Mental Retardation Planning (PL 89-97)
 - (17) Retarded and Emotionally Disturbed Children Programs (PL 89-97 & PL 89-105)

PART II. DIGEST OF RECENT MH-MR LEGISLATION1) STAFFING OF COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH CENTERS

- o Public Law 89-105
- o Financial assistance toward meeting the cost of technical and professional personnel serving in community mental health centers. (To assist in the establishment and initial operation of centers.)
- o Assistance can be for personnel in new centers or in new services in existing centers.
- o Duration: first 51 months of operation of new centers (or services).
- o Program period: 1966-1972
- o Cost: \$224,175,000

2) "MEDICARE": HOSPITAL AND PHYSICIAN COVERAGE OF MENTALLY ILL AGED

- o Public Law 89-97
- o "Hospital Insurance Benefits for the Aged":
 - (a) Hospitalization: mentally ill aged get same hospital coverage under "medicare" as physically ill; except -- inpatient psychiatric treatment cannot exceed 190 days in lifetime of patient.
 - (b) Nursing home care: mentally ill aged qualify for same benefits as physically ill; except - they cannot be treated in a facility operating "primarily" for the care of the mentally ill.
 - (c) Home services: same as physically ill; except services cannot originate from an agency "primarily" for care of mentally ill.
 - (d) Outpatient diagnostic services: same as physically ill
 - (e) Starts July 1, 1966
 - (f) Cost: \$27 million per year.
- o "Supplementary Medical Insurance Benefits for the Aged":
 - (a) Psychiatrist outpatient treatment
 - (b) Home health services (same as physically ill)
 - (c) Except: psychiatric benefits have annual limit of \$250 in costs (or 50% of expenses, whichever is smaller)
 - (d) Starts July 1, 1966
 - (e) Cost: \$90 million per year

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3) WELFARE ASSISTANCE TO MENTALLY ILL AGED

- o Public Law 89-97
- o Removal of "Exclusion" in Public Assistance Program:
 - (a) For 30 years a needy aged person was ineligible for the federal share of public assistance (old age pensions) if he was being treated in a public mental hospital
 - (b) Public Law 89-97 removes the exclusion.
 - (c) There must be an "individual plan" for each patient and "periodic review" of his case to see if he is getting proper treatment in the mental hospital.
 - (d) State cannot use the federal money for public assistance patients to "supplant" state money. There must be a "maintenance of effort" by the state (i.e. - state and local expenditures must increase).
 - (e) Starts - January 1, 1966.
- o REVISION OF "KERR MILLS" PROGRAM
 - (a) Indigent mentally ill aged can now be treated under the state Medical Assistance program.
 - (b) There must be a "state plan" for treating indigent mentally ill aged.
 - (c) State cannot use federal money to replace state money.
 - (d) Starts - January 1, 1966
 - (e) Cost (M.A.A. and P.A.) \$75 million per year

4) APPLACHIAN REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT ACT OF 1965

- o Public Law 89-4
- o To assist the Appalachian region in promoting its economic development, and to establish a framework for joint Federal and State efforts toward attacking common problems and meeting common needs on a coordinated regional basis.
- o Grants for "construction, equipment and operation" of hospital . . . including mental hospitals.
- o 80% of construction cost can be federal funds.
- o 100% of first two years of operation costs can be federal funds
- o 50% of next three years of operation costs can be federal funds
- o Construction money: \$41 million (three June 30, 1967).

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- o Operating money: \$28 million for five years.
- o Eleven states eligible.

5) ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ACT OF 1965

- o Public Law 89-136
- o Purpose: creation of new employment opportunities by developing and expanding new and existing public works and other facilities.
- o Applies to regions, counties and communities suffering substantial and persistent unemployment and underemployment.
- o Regions mentioned as most likely benefiting from the Act: Upper Great Lakes, Upper New England, Ozarka and Four Corners Area.
- o Eligible projects (under Title I):
 - hospitals
 - health centers
 - vocational training and rehabilitation facilities
- o Projects under Title I would have to tend to improve the opportunities for the establishment of industrial or commercial enterprises which would provide long-term jobs.
- o Basic federal program would pay 50% of cost. Supplementary grants could bring federal share to 80%
- o Title I money authorized: \$400 million.

6) "POVERTY": ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY ACT OF 1964

- o Public Law 88-452
- o In 1965 the first VISTA volunteers were assigned to mental hospitals and schools for retarded.
- o "VISTA" -- Volunteers in Service for America -- is a domestic version of the Peace Corps.
- o Sixty eight (68) VISTA volunteers are now in MH-MR facilities in five states.
- o West Virginia: 30 volunteers in three facilities
- o Mass.: 12 volunteers at Boston State Hospital
- o Tennessee: 6 volunteers at Clover Bottom State Hospital and School for the Mentally Retarded
- o Washington: 12 volunteers at Ranier State Hospital

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- o California: 8 volunteers are assigned to a private MR project in San Francisco.
- o There are 932 VISTA volunteers working throughout the U.S.A. 68 are in MH-MR.

7) HEALTH PROFESSIONS EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE AMENDMENTS OF 1965

- o H.R. 3141 (passed House on Sept. 1st)
- o Provides assistance to improve educational quality of schools of medicine, etc.; student scholarships and loans; aid for construction of teaching facilities.
- o Measure will create 2,000 new "1st year places" in medical schools.
- o Extends for 3 years (1967-8-9) the current program of matching grants to aid in construction, replacement or rehabilitation of teaching facilities for the training of M.D.'s, professional public health personnel, etc.
- o Extends for 3 years student loan funds.
- o New 4 year program of special improvement grants to schools of medicine.
- o New 5 year scholarship program for students.
- o Authorized appropriations in House-passed bill: \$755 million (over 4 years)

8) VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION AMENDMENTS OF 1965

- o H.R. 8310 (Passed House on July 29).
- o Improves and expands the program of services of the U.S. Vocational Rehabilitation Administration (begin in 1920; amended in 1943 and 1954).
- o Goal: to rehabilitate annually 200,000 physically and mentally disabled, as soon as possible.
- o Rehabilitated last year:
 - Total -- 130,000
 - Mentally ill -- 14,000
 - Mentally retarded -- 7,200
- o Establishes a uniform federal matching share of 75% for all states beginning with 1967.
- o Speaker of the House, Hon. John McCormack, said in House debate:

"This . . . is one of the most historic bills of the entire period of our Nation's history."

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- o Newly constructed rehabilitation workshops and facilities will be eligible for grants to cover INITIAL STAFFING for 51 month periods starting at 75% federal matching
- o Authorized appropriations:
 - (a) State programs - \$1.05 billion (over 3 years)
 - (b) Research and demonstration projects - \$301 million (3 years)
 - (c) To start new state projects - \$21 million (3 years)
 - (d) Initial staffing grants and construction of workshops - \$3.5 million (3 years)
 - (e) Total - \$1,424,500,000

9) DRUG ABUSE CONTROL AMENDMENTS OF 1965

- o Public Law 89-74
- o Provides controls over distribution of barbituates, amphetamines and other drugs having a similar effect on the central nervous system. Congress said it wants to establish controls over distribution of "depressant and stimulant drugs." Senate said: "Drug abuse is closely bound up with juvenile delinquency." President called for legislation in his Health Message.
- o Bill establishes series of controls from basic manufacturer to ultimate consumer. Records must be kept for 3 years.
- o Cost of administration of program: \$10 million annually.

10) OLDER AMERICANS ACT OF 1965

- o PL 89-73
- o Establishes within the Dept. of Health, Education & Welfare and Administration on Aging.
- o Will administer programs, grants, etc. in field of aging; provide technical assistance to the states
- o Grants to states of \$13 million for FY 1966-67 for demonstration programs.
- o There must be a "state plan."
- o Cost of administration: \$4.5 million (2 years)

11) MANPOWER ACT OF 1965

- o Public Law 89-15
- o Amends the Manpower Development & Training Act of 1962.
- o Establishes programs of experimental, developmental demonstration and pilot projects through contracts with public or private non-profit organizations for demonstrating the effectiveness of specialized methods in meeting the manpower, employment & training problems of worker groups such as . . . the handicapped (including mentally ill and retarded).

12) HOUSING ACT OF 1965

- o PL 89-117
- o Titles 7 and 8 provide grants for youth centers and health stations; social services for children and aged.
- o Section 101: contains money for housing for handicapped.
- o Cost of centers program: \$50 million

13) ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION ACT OF 1965

- o PL 89-10
- o TITLE III (Section 303) contains grants for establishment and operation of programs (including construction of necessary facilities) designed to enrich the programs of local elementary and secondary schools by providing services such as --
 - comprehensive guidance and counselling
 - psychological services
 - social work services
 - specialized instruction and equipment for handicapped students.
- o Cost -- \$100 million (for one year) for 8 different programs under Title III.

14) HEALTH, EDUCATION AND WELFARE DEPT. APPROPRIATIONS FOR FISCAL YEAR 1966

- o PL 89-156
- o N.I.M.H. appropriations for July 1965 - June 1966: \$212,469,000
- o Construction of Community Mental Health Centers - \$50 million
- o PHS - Chronic Diseases Div. \$3,250,000 (retardation)
- o Hospital and Medical Facilities Amendments of 1964 -- \$22,500,000 for construction of facilities for the mentally retarded.

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- o Health Research Facilities -- \$14 million for mental retardation centers.
- o \$19,700,000 (Supplemental bill; still enroute through the Congress) for first year of initial staffing of community mental health centers.

15) COMMISSION ON MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES FOR CHILDREN

- o PL 89-97
- o Authorizes a two year study of our "resources, methods and practices for diagnosing or preventing mental illness in children and of treating, caring for, and rehabilitating children with emotional illness."
- o Two years: \$1 million
- o \$500,000 for FY 1966.

16) MENTAL RETARDATION PLANNING

- o PL 89-97
- o Extends planning on state mental retardation programs through June 30, 1967.
- o Cost - \$5.5 million

17) RETARDED AND EMOTIONALLY DISTURBED CHILDREN PROGRAMS

- o PL 89-97
 - (a) Grants to institutions of higher education for training professional personnel for care of mentally retarded and handicapped children -- \$32.5 million (3 years)
 - (b) To enable the Commissioner of Education to make grants for demonstration projects, training of teachers, research facilities in connection with emotionally disturbed and mentally retarded children (amendments to PL 88-164) -- \$145 million (over 4 years).